

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A medical holder for assisting an operation of puncturing a flexible tube, comprising:

a first holding member and a second holding member that are formed so that the first holding member and the second holding member can be engaged with each other and can hold the flexible tube between the first holding member and the second holding member when the first holding member and the second holding member are engaged with each other,

wherein a hole through which the flexible tube is punctured is formed in the first holding member.

2. (Original) The medical holder according to claim 1, wherein

a curved-surface portion is formed so as to fit an outer shape of the flexible tube in an engaging side region of the second holding member, whereas a pressing portion in a protrusion shape is formed in an engaging side region of the first holding member, and

the flexible tube is held by being pressed by the curved-surface portion and the pressing portion.

3. (Currently amended) The medical holder according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the first holding member and the second holding member are formed integrally and are joined to each other with a bendable hinge portion.

4. (Currently amended) The medical holder according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein

a protrusion is formed in the engaging side region of at least one of the first holding member and the second holding member,

a recess or a through hole into which the protrusion fits is provided in the holding member to be engaged with the holding member having the protrusion, and

the first holding member and the second holding member are engaged with each other by fitting the protrusion into the recess or the through hole.

5. (Currently amended) The medical holder according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, further comprising a tubular adaptor that is formed so that one end is open and the other end can be joined to the hole through which the flexible tube is punctured,

wherein the other end of the adaptor is provided with a puncture needle for puncturing the flexible tube.

6. (Original) The medical holder according to claim 5, wherein the hole through which the flexible tube is punctured has a groove, and the other end of the adaptor has a protrusion that fits into the groove.

7. (Currently amended) The medical holder according to claim 5 ~~or~~ 6, wherein the adaptor is formed so that a vacuum blood-collecting vessel can be inserted inside the adaptor, and a second puncture needle for puncturing the vacuum blood-collecting vessel is attached inside the adaptor so as to communicate with the puncture needle.